AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

~~receiving~~ sending a device driver file and a first portion of network-specific data from a station ~~by~~ to a host computing device~~, the network-specific data comprising data for setting a network access level for the station~~;

storing a second portion of network-specific data at the station that is not accessible by the host computing device; and

~~installing at said host computing device a device driver that is represented by said device driver file; and~~

~~transmitting~~ receiving a data block ~~into a shared communications medium that constitutes a network, wherein said~~ from the host computing device, ~~generates said data block and~~ wherein ~~said~~ the host computing device uses ~~said~~ the device driver to transfer ~~said~~ the data block to ~~said~~ the station[[;]], wherein ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data ~~defines said~~ enables the host computer to access the network, and wherein the station controls access to the network by the host computer using the second portion of network-specific data.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data at ~~said~~ the host computing device.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~reading~~ storing an AutoRun file and ~~executing~~ a Setup file~~, wherein said AutoRun file and said Setup file are stored~~ on ~~said~~ the station ~~and wherein said Setup file is for installing said device driver at said host computing device~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the device driver file is stored at ~~said~~ the station in one of a flash memory, a read-only memory, a programmable read-only memory, and a magnetic disk memory.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the network-specific data define a security configuration and a network configuration.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein ~~said~~ the security configuration comprises encryption-related and authentication-related parameters, and wherein ~~said~~ the network configuration comprises a network identifier.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein ~~said~~ the network identifier is an IEEE 802.11 basic service set identifier.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~a~~ the second portion of network-specific data comprises data that sets a length of time that the host computer can access the network ~~resides at said station and is unreadable by said host computing device~~.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a memory for storing at least a device driver file and network-specific data, comprising a first portion of network-specific data[[,]] and a second portion of network-specific data ~~the network-specific data comprising data for setting a network access level for the apparatus~~;

a host interface for transferring ~~said~~ the device driver file and ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data ~~to a host computing device~~; and

a transmitter for transmitting a data block into ~~a shared communications medium that constitutes~~ a network, wherein ~~said~~ the data block is received from a host computing device ~~said host computing device~~ using a device driver ~~that is that is~~ represented by ~~said~~ the device driver file[[;]], wherein ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data ~~defines said~~ is configured to enable the host computing device to access the network, and wherein the second portion of network-specific data is unreadable by the host computing device and is configured to control access to the network by the host computing device.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein ~~said~~ the network-specific data define a security configuration and a network configuration.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the security configuration comprises encryption-related and authentication-related parameters, and wherein ~~said~~ the network configuration comprises a network identifier.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein ~~said~~ the network identifier is an IEEE 802.11 basic service set identifier.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein ~~a~~ the second portion of network-specific data comprises data that sets a length of time that the host computer can access the network ~~data resides at said station and is unreadable by said host computing device~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a host computing device for:

installing ~~said~~ the device driver;

generating ~~said~~ the data block; and

displaying ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein ~~said~~ the memory is also for storing an AutoRun file and a Setup file.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein ~~said~~ the memory comprises one of a flash memory, a read-only memory, a programmable read-only memory, and a magnetic disk memory.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a transceiver for:

~~receiving~~ sending a device driver file and a first portion of network-specific data ~~to a host computing device, the network-specific data comprising data for setting a network access level for the apparatus~~; ~~and~~

storing a second portion of network-specific data; and

transmitting a data block into a ~~shared communications medium that constitutes a~~ network based on the second portion of network-specific data; and

a host computing device for:

receiving the device driver file and the first portion of network-specific data;

installing a device driver that is represented by ~~said~~ the device driver file;

generating ~~said~~ the data block; and

using ~~said~~ the device driver to transfer ~~said~~ the data block to ~~said~~ the transceiver, wherein ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data ~~defines said~~ is configured to control access by the host computing device to the network, and wherein the host computing device is unable to read the second portion of network-specific data.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the host computing device is also for displaying ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the host computing device is also for:

reading an AutoRun file; and

executing a Setup file; wherein ~~said~~ the AutoRun file and ~~said~~ the Setup file are stored at ~~said~~ the station and wherein ~~said~~ the Setup file is for installing ~~said~~ the device driver at ~~said~~ the host computing device.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the transceiver is also for storing ~~said~~ the device driver file in one of a flash memory, a read-only memory, a programmable read-only memory, and a magnetic disk memory.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data and the second portion of network-specific data define a security configuration and a network configuration.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein ~~said~~ the security configuration comprises encryption-related and authentication-related parameters, and wherein ~~said~~ the network configuration comprises a network identifier.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein ~~said~~ the network identifier is an IEEE 802.11 basic service set identifier.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein ~~a~~ the second portion of network-specific data ~~resides at said transceiver and is unreadable by said host computing device~~ comprises data that sets a length of time that the host computing device can access the network.

25. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving a device driver file and a first portion of network-specific data from a station, the network-specific data comprising data for setting a network access level for the station, wherein the station stores a second portion of network-specific data that is unreadable by the means for receiving;

means for installing at ~~said~~ the means for receiving a device driver that is represented by ~~said~~ the device driver file; and

means for transmitting a data block into ~~a shared-communications medium that constitutes~~ a network, wherein ~~said~~ the means for receiving generates ~~said~~ the data block, ~~and~~ wherein ~~said~~ the means for receiving uses ~~said~~ the device driver to transfer ~~said~~ the data block to ~~said~~ the station[[;]], wherein ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data ~~defines said~~ is configured to enable the means for receiving to access the network, and wherein the second portion of network-specific data is configured to control access to the network.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, further comprising means for displaying ~~said~~ the first portion of network-specific data at ~~said~~ the means for receiving.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, further comprising means for reading an AutoRun file and for executing a Setup file, wherein ~~said~~ the AutoRun file and ~~said~~ the Setup

file are stored on ~~said~~ the station and wherein ~~said~~ the Setup file is for installing ~~said~~ the device driver at ~~said~~ the means for receiving.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein ~~said~~ the device driver file is stored at ~~said~~ the station in one of a flash memory, a read-only memory, a programmable read-only memory, and a magnetic disk memory.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein ~~said~~ the network-specific data define a security configuration and a network configuration.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 29, wherein ~~said~~ the security configuration comprises encryption-related and authentication-related parameters, and wherein ~~said~~ the network configuration comprises a network identifier.

31. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein ~~said~~ the network identifier is an IEEE 802.11 basic service set identifier.

32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein [[a]] the second portion of network-specific data ~~resides at said station and is unreadable by said means for receiving~~ comprises data that sets a length of time that the host computing device can access the network.